

Executive Registry
10-787

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Report on First Meeting of Special Committee of the OCB (Dearborn Group)

1. Pursuant to your instructions, I attended the organization meeting of the above mentioned committee or group which took place at 4:00 PM at Old State. I took Mr. Parrott with me in line with our conversations of Sunday and just prior to the meeting, I had a brief exchange of views with Mr. Dearborn of which the following is the gist:

Mr. Dearborn agreed, with some reluctance, to Mr. Parrott's attending the first meeting, but he made it clear that in the future he does not wish to have any of the OCB Assistants present either as representatives of their respective departments or agencies or as auditors or observers. Mr. Dearborn stated that such attendance would confuse lines and channels and that if he were to agree to one such assistant being present, he would be on the spot with regard to all of the others. I said that we here had given this matter considerable further thought and had reached the conclusion that it was not wise for our representative to be a senior line officer and that for a number of reasons, it did not appear to us that I should be the Agency representative. Mr. Dearborn took this fairly well but immediately stated that he was anxious to keep the representation to the highest possible level, and that perhaps Mr. Amory might be the most logical representative from the Agency since in his concept the function of his committee will be more of a planning affair than an operational matter. We agreed to discuss the matter of our representation further and you may wish

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to give me additional guidance with regard to this. There may be reasons why Mr. Amory might prefer not to be the Agency representative, and in any case it is my own judgment that since this committee will not concern itself with policy formulation or policy decisions but rather will be considering operational plans and ideas, the most logical representative of the Agency would be Mr. FitzGerald with his Deputy, [redacted] as alternate. If you agree, I shall follow up with Mr. Dearborn along this line.

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2. Present were the following:

White House	- Mr. F. M. Dearborn, Jr.
State	- Mr. G. Frederick Reinhardt
	- Mr. Elbert G. Mathews
Defense	- Mr. Karl Harr, Jr.
CIA	- Mr. Frank G. Wisner
	- Mr. Thomas A. Parrott
USIA	- Mr. Saxton Bradford
ICA	- Mr. William H. G. FitzGerald*
Treasury	- Mr. A. Gilmore Flues
AEC	- Vice Adm. Paul F. Foster
OCB	- Mr. Elmer B. Staats
	- Mr. R. V. Mrozinski

3. Mr. Dearborn opened the meeting with a statement of the objectives of the committee, as he saw them. He said that he felt that his concept had to be carried out by a mechanism such as this or "a new agency would have to be invented." He said that he thought the committee should concentrate on anticipating moves that the Soviet bloc might make, on countermeasures that the U.S. could take, and on developing new ideas for fighting the cold war. A good deal of discussion ensued as to the proper function of such a committee, and a number of divergent views were expressed. In general it was agreed that the generation of ideas should have priority over detailed exchange of information or deep-thinking policy exercises, and that the representatives should basically be staff planners rather than senior line officers. In answer to a

*This is a new man in ICA, not Dr. D. A. FitzGerald

question, Mr. Dearborn said that the committee would not attempt to engage in policy formulation or in making decisions of a policy nature, but that it could and should raise questions of policy for resolution in appropriate places.

4. He said that any action taken would be accomplished through regular channels and within the OCB terms of reference. He thought that normally the members of the committee would go back to their own agencies and stimulate action there; the group should not conflict in any way with existing OCB Working Groups, Board Assistants, or the Board itself. He said however that he would decide whether any items discussed in the committee should be reported directly to the Board or to an appropriate Working Group, or whether a note should simply be made in the Weekly Activity Report.

5. Mr. Dearborn stated categorically that this committee could not deal in any way with covert activities.

6. The rest of the meeting was devoted to detailed discussion of three or four of the ideas that had been submitted by CIA personnel as a result of the recent OCB request for ideas.

7. It was agreed that for the time being meetings would be scheduled for 11:30 AM on Mondays.



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FRANK G. WISNER
Deputy Director(Plans)

N. B. Mr. Dearborn stated that since Mr. Reinhardt was required to travel a good deal, it might not be possible for him to be present regularly, and therefore his alternate, Mr. Mathews, would attend in many cases.